

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The optical functional device according to Claim 14 [[10]], wherein the first and second optical waveguides are each provided as a planar lightwave circuit, and

wherein the first and second optical waveguides are horizontally arranged.

12. (Currently Amended) The optical functional device according to Claim 14 [[10]], wherein the first and second optical waveguides are each provided as a planar lightwave circuit, and

wherein the second optical waveguide is located over the first optical waveguide, or the first optical waveguide is located over the second optical waveguide.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) An optical functional device having at least one of ~~functions of an optical isolator, an optical circulator and a mode converter, the optical functional device comprising:~~ a first optical waveguide;

a second optical waveguide having an equivalent refractive index lower than that of the first optical waveguide; and

a connection through which the first and second optical waveguides are connected along an optical axis,

wherein the connection is formed by selectively enlarging the waveguide width of the second optical waveguide,

wherein the first and second optical waveguides each include a core and cladding,

wherein a difference between the equivalent refractive index of the first optical waveguide and that of the second optical waveguide is determined by the cladding,

wherein the cladding of the first optical waveguide and that of the second optical waveguide are made of the same material, and

wherein the difference between the equivalent refractive indices is determined by a difference between the thickness of the cladding of the first optical waveguide and that of the cladding of the second optical waveguide.

15-18. (Cancelled)